15-25K Static-Helium Regenerator/Double Pulse Tube Cooler for Receiving Arrays, Phase I



Completed Technology Project (2006 - 2006)

Project Introduction

NASA needs a cryogenic refrigerator for the 15-25K range for receiving arrays of ground-based antennas that will serve the telecommunications needs of future space exploration. We propose to develop a 15-25K Static-Helium Regenerator/Double Pulse Tube Cooler for receiving arrays. Our SHR/DPTC combines two of our technologies that have potential to enable pulse-tube coolers to operate efficiently in the 15-25K range: (1) our Static-Helium Regenerator (SHR) technology, which uses static helium for the regenerator's thermal mass; and (2) our Double Pulse Tube Cooler (DPTC) technology, which uses a recuperator (instead of regenerators) to transfer heat between two pulse-tube sub-cycles that operate in parallel and out-of-phase. In Phase I, we will perform system trades and generate a preliminary design of a 15-25K SHR/DPTC that minimizes life-cycle costs for receiving arrays. In Phase II, we will: develop and test SHR/DPTC components; integrate the SHR/DPTC components with cooler components we have already developed; and test the integrated cooler. In Phase III, we will build and sell SHR/DPTCs to the government and private sector.

Primary U.S. Work Locations and Key Partners





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Organizational Responsibility

Responsible Mission Directorate:

Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)

Lead Center / Facility:

Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL)

Responsible Program:

Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Tech Transfer



Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Tech Transfer

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Organizations Performing Work	Role	Туре	Location
	Lead	NASA	Pasadena,
	Organization	Center	California
Beck Engineering,	Supporting	Industry	Port Orchard,
Inc.	Organization		Washington

Primary U.S. Work Locations	
California	Washington

Project Management

Program Director:

Jason L Kessler

Program Manager:

Carlos Torrez

Technology Areas

Primary:

- TX14 Thermal Management Systems
 - ☐ TX14.1 Cryogenic Systems
 ☐ TX14.1.3 Thermal
 Conditioning for
 Sensors, Instruments, and High Efficiency
 Electric Motors

